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Journal of the Society of Arts.

FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 1869.

Announcements by the Council.

INDIA COMMITTEE.

This evening (Friday), June 18th, the seventh conference will be held, when the subject of "Cotton Cultivation and Supply" will be discussed. The chair will be taken at 8 o'clock, by JOHN CHEETHAM, Esq. Members of the Society interested in Indian questions are invited to attend.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The Eighteenth Annual Conference between the Council of the Society and the Representatives of the Institutions in Union and Local Boards will be held on Wednesday next, the 23rd inst., at Twelve o'clock, noon. The Chairman of the Council will preside.

The Council will lay before the Conference the Secretary's Report of the Proceedings of the Union for the past year, and the results of the Examinations; and the Programme of Examinations for 1870 will also be brought before the Conference.

The following suggestions of subjects for discussion have been received from various quarters, it being understood that in putting them forward the Council express no opinion whatever upon them :—

1. What arrangements can Mechanics' Institutions make for promoting the systematic Technical Instruction of the people in their several localities.
2. It being in contemplation to call meetings of the members of the Society of Arts and others in corporate towns, for the furtherance of Technical Instruction, how far can the Institutions in Union with the Society aid in promoting the success of such meetings?
3. Does the Endowed Schools Bill, now before Parliament, afford any facilities which can be taken advantage of by Mechanics' Institutions for such purposes, and if not, can any steps be taken for obtaining the insertion of clauses with that object in view?
4. In what way can the advantages of union with the Society of Arts, apart from the Examinations, be made available in the provinces?
5. How can the Society of Arts assist in obtaining the extension of State aid to Night Classes in the Institutions in Union?
6. Is it necessary that the Examinations in the same subjects of Science and Art should be carried on both by the Department of Science and Art and by the Society of Arts?
7. Would the extension of the Final Examinations to Commercial and lower Middle-class Schools produce beneficial results?
8. Is it not desirable that scholars in attendance at Day Schools should be excluded from the Elementary Examinations?

Secretaries of Institutions and Local Boards are requested to send, *immediately*, the names

of the Representatives appointed to attend the Conference; and early notice should be given of any other subjects which Institutions or Local Boards may desire their Representatives to introduce to the notice of the Conference.

Secretaries of Institutions are requested to forward *at once*, by book post, copies of the last Annual Reports of their Institutions.

CONVERSAZIONE.

The Conversazione originally fixed for the 23rd inst. is unavoidably POSTPONED to a later date, which will be announced as soon as the arrangements are completed.

DESIGNS FOR CHANNEL STEAMERS.

The Council of the Society of Arts offer the Gold Medal of the Society, and the large Silver Medal of the Society, for the best and the second-best block model of a steamer, which shall afford the most convenient shelter and accommodation to passengers on the deck of the vessel crossing the Channel between France and England. The steamer is not to exceed in tonnage and draught the best vessels now in use between Folkestone and Boulogne, and the model must be on a scale of a quarter of an inch to a foot. The models, marked in cypher, are to be sent in to the Society of Arts' House, John-street, Adelphi, on or before the 1st November, 1869, with a sealed envelope, giving the name and address of the designer.

The Council reserve the right of withholding either or both medals, in case, in their opinion, the models sent in do not possess sufficient merit.

The following particulars of the South-Eastern Channel steamers, *Victoria*, *Albert Edward*, and *Alexandra*, are given for the convenience of competitors, but it is not intended to confine the designs to them, except as to tonnage and draught :—

Length between perpendiculars, 200 ft.
Breadth of beam, 24 ft.
Depth underside of deck amidships, 12 ft. 6 in.
Draught of water, 7 ft.
Bow, clipper.
Stern, elliptic.
Rig, polacca with two masts, lug foresail, gaff mainsail, staysail, and flying jib.
Engines, oscillating.
Paddle wheels, 17 ft. 6 in. diameter.
Tonnage, 568 tons.
Speed, 17 miles an hour.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The Lady-day subscriptions are due, and should be forwarded by cheque or Post-office order, crossed "Coutts and Co.," and made payable to Mr. Samuel Thomas Davenport, Financial Officer.